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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Pascal GAUTHIER

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: February 15, 2002

Docket No.: 111978

For: A DRIVE ELEMENT SUCH AS A DRIVING WHEEL OR A HOISTING WINCH,
THE ELEMENT COMPRISING A SYNCHRONOUS MOTOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 5, lines 31, delete current paragraph and insert therefor:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 4 and 19 as follows:

4. (Amended) A driving wheel according to claim 3, wherein the gearing comprises a single stepdown stage.

19. (Amended) A hoisting winch according to claim 18, wherein the gearing comprises a single stepdown stage.

Please add new claims 27-30 as follows:

-- 27. A driving wheel according to claim 4, wherein the single stepdown stage has a stepdown ratio no greater than 15. --